UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DATE MAILED: 07/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
 Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
 earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _10 May 2005_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
 closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-12_ is/are pending in the application.

 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-12_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

 a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

 1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

 2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

 3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
 application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection.   Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10 May

2005 has been entered.

2.   Claims 1-12 remain pending for further examination.

Claim Objections

3.   The disclosure is objected to because the Summary of the Invention is missing.

The Examiner suggests the Applicant(s) to include a brief Summary of the Invention

section in order to resolve the objection.

> Please see the following steps:
>
> a)   Title of the Invention: See 37 CFR 1.72(a) and MPEP § 606. The title of the invention
> should be placed at the top of the first page of the specification unless the title is provided
> in an application data sheet. The title of the invention should be brief but technically
> accurate and descriptive, preferably from two to seven words may not contain more than
> 500 characters.
>
> (b)   Cross-References to Related Applications: See 37 CFR 1.78 and MPEP § 201.11.
>
> (c)   Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research and Development: See MPEP
> § 310.
>
> (d)   The Names Of The Parties To A Joint Research Agreement: See 37 CFR 1.71(g).
>
> (e)   Incorporation-By-Reference Of Material Submitted On a Compact Disc: The specification
> is required to include an incorporation-by-reference of electronic documents that are to
> become part of the permanent United States Patent and Trademark Office records in the
> file of a patent application. See 37 CFR 1.52(e) and MPEP § 608.05. Computer program
> listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more

than 50 pages of text were permitted as electronic documents on compact discs beginning on September 8, 2000.

Or alternatively, Reference to a "Microfiche Appendix": See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.

(f)   Background of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(c). The specification should set forth the Background of the Invention in two parts:

    (1)   Field of the Invention: A statement of the field of art to which the invention pertains. This statement may include a paraphrasing of the applicable U.S. patent classification definitions of the subject matter of the claimed invention. This item may also be titled "Technical Field."

    (2)   Description of the Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98: A description of the related art known to the applicant and including, if applicable, references to specific related art and problems involved in the prior art which are solved by the applicant's invention. This item may also be titled "Background Art."

(g)   Brief Summary of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(d). A brief summary or general statement of the invention as set forth in 37 CFR 1.73. The summary is separate and distinct from the abstract and is directed toward the invention rather than the disclosure as a whole. The summary may point out the advantages of the invention or how it solves problems previously existent in the prior art (and preferably indicated in the Background of the Invention). In chemical cases it should point out in general terms the utility of the invention. If possible, the nature and gist of the invention or the inventive concept should be set forth. Objects of the invention should be treated briefly and only to the extent that they contribute to an understanding of the invention.

(h)   Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawing(s): See MPEP § 608.01(f). A reference to and brief description of the drawing(s) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.74.

(i)   Detailed Description of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(g). A description of the preferred embodiment(s) of the invention as required in 37 CFR 1.71. The description should be as short and specific as is necessary to describe the invention adequately and accurately. Where elements or groups of elements, compounds, and processes, which are conventional and generally widely known in the field of the invention described and their exact nature or type is not necessary for an understanding and use of the invention by a person skilled in the art, they should not be described in detail. However, where particularly complicated subject matter is involved or where the elements, compounds, or processes may not be commonly or widely known in the field, the specification should refer to another patent or readily available publication which adequately describes the subject matter.

(j)   Claim or Claims: See 37 CFR 1.75 and MPEP § 608.01(m). The claim or claims must commence on separate sheet or electronic page (37 CFR 1.52(b)(3)). Where a claim sets forth a plurality of elements or steps, each element or step of the claim should be separated by a line indentation. There may be plural indentations to further segregate subcombinations or related steps. See 37 CFR 1.75 and MPEP § 608.01(i)-(p).

(k)   Abstract of the Disclosure: See MPEP § 608.01(f). A brief narrative of the disclosure as a whole in a single paragraph of 150 words or less commencing on a separate sheet following the claims. In an international application which has entered the national stage

(37 CFR 1.491(b)), the applicant need not submit an abstract commencing on a separate sheet if an abstract was published with the international application under PCT Article 21. The abstract that appears on the cover page of the pamphlet published by the International Bureau (IB) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the abstract that will be used by the USPTO. See MPEP § 1893.03(e).

(I)   Sequence Listing. See 37 CFR 1.821-1.825 and MPEP §§ 2421-2431. The requirement for a sequence listing applies to all sequences disclosed in a given application, whether the sequences are claimed or not. See MPEP § 2421.02.

Claim 9, line 7, is objected to because of the following informalities: the typographical error of "hierarchal" should be "hierarchical". Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments, filed 10 May 2005, with respect to 1-12 have been fully considered, but have been found persuasive only to the extent that the prior art of record does not specifically disclose the limitations "wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword." However, Zhao discloses such limitations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

U.S. Patent No. 6,631,496 issued to Li et al., (hereinafter "Li") in view of U.S. Patent No.

5,920,864 issued to Zhao (hereinafter "Zhao").

As per claim 1, Li discloses "a search support device" (i.e., search engine; see

col. 7, lines 56-57), "in which an address indicating a location of information accessible

on a network is registered" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the

computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the device comprising:

"a search unit" (see col. 7, line 56-57) "that determines a hierarchical category of

an address designated for registration based on a definition entry" (i.e., the bookmark

system includes a document, in which classifies into (hierarchical) categories; see col.

2, lines 1-6) and "a selection record of a menu" (i.e., selecting bookmarks; see col. 2,

lines 42-44), and

"a registration unit" (i.e., database document record "bookmark"; see col. 1, lines

64-65), "that registers an address in the hierarchical category" (i.e., the power

bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see

col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4,

"wherein predefined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client; see Zhao col. 3, lines 49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42; and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col. 6, lines 14-35. Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page, by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level

keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 2, in addition to claim 1, Li further discloses "the address designated for registration in the category containing the registered address the registered address" (i.e., the power bookmarks, where documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47) "when located at the same level as the address designated for registration" (i.e., automated bookmark classification based on the contents of the underlying documents; as described in the specification page 6, lines 21-24; see col. 4, lines 16-17).

As per claim 3, Li discloses "a search support device" (i.e., search engine; see col. 7, line 56-57), "in which an address indicating a location of information accessible on a network is registered" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the method comprising the steps of:

"determining a hierarchical category of an address designated for registration based on a definition entry" (i.e., the bookmark system includes a document, in which classifies into (hierarchical) categories; see col. 2, lines 1-6) and "a selection record of a menu" (i.e., selecting bookmarks; see col. 2, lines 42-44), and

"registering an address in the hierarchical category" (i.e., the power bookmarks,

documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines

46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4,

"wherein predefined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a

page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65

to col. 3, line 2),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for

the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e.,

locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-

59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support

method implemented on a <u>client computer</u>; and wherein, when a new keyword is

searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the

registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword.

However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines

49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to

the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect

to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col.

6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and

downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page,

by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is

easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods

which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 4, Li discloses "a search support device" (i.e., search engine; see col. 7, lines 56-57), "in which an address indicating a location of information accessible on a network is requested based on search information associated with the desired information" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the device comprising:

"a category menu storage unit" (i.e., database document record "bookmark"; see col. 1, lines 64-65), "that stores a category menu in which predetermined hierarchical categories are listed up" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4; and

"a search information generating unit" (see col. 7, line 56-57) "that determines generates search information associated with a hierarchical category" (i.e., the bookmark system includes a document, in which classifies into (hierarchical) categories; see col. 2, lines 1-6) and "from the selection record of a menu" (i.e., selecting bookmarks; see col. 2, lines 42-44),

"wherein predefined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support device implemented on a <u>client computer</u>; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines 49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col. 6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page, by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level

keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 5, Li discloses "the search support device" (i.e., search engine; see col. 7, lines 56-57), "a display unit that displays an address in another form indicating the location of desired information detected based on the search information generated by the search information generating unit" (i.e., display windows, indicate the access of each node; see col. 11, lines 48-58); and

"address registration unit (i.e., database document record "bookmark"; see col. 1, lines 64-65) "that registers the address in the category menu" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47) "when the address indicates information that can be accessed" (i.e., retrieving document when needed; see col. 1, lines 66-67).

As per claim 6, Li further discloses "an address selection unit" (i.e., database document record "bookmark"; see col. 1, lines 64-65) "that selects the address registered in the category menu so as to make an access to the location of the desired information" (i.e., retrieving document when needed; see col. 1, lines 66-67).

As per claim 7, Li further discloses "an icon conversion unit that visually changes the category in which the address is registered by the address registration unit" (i.e., list folder is represented by icon, in which user can set (convert to) a preference; see col. 11, lines 23-34).

As per claim 8, Li discloses "a search support device" (i.e., search engine; see col. 7, lines 56-57), "by which a search process for an address indicating a location of desired information accessible on a network is requested based on search information associated with the desired information" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the method comprising:

"storing a category menu in which predetermined hierarchical categories are listed up" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4,

"wherein predefined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2),

"generating search information associated with a hierarchical category" (i.e., the bookmark system includes a document, in which classifies into (hierarchical) categories; see col. 2, lines 1-6) and "selected from the category menu" (i.e., selecting bookmarks; see col. 2, lines 42-44),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e.,

locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-

59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support

method implemented on a <u>client computer</u>; and wherein, when a new keyword is

searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the

registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword.

However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines

49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to

the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect

to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col.

6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and

downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page,

by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is

easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods

which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the

teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a

new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level

keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the

new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide

an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically

without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 9, Li discloses "a storage medium which stores a program for computer to perform an operation" (see col. 14, lines 11-14) "with a search support device" (i.e., search engine; see col. 7, line4 56-57), "in which an address indicating a location of information accessible on a network is registered" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the program comprising:

"a procedure for classifying the address" (i.e., database document record "bookmark"; see col. 1, lines 64-65), "in accordance with a hierarchical category related to information" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47) "that can be accessed at the address" (see col. 1, lines 58-60); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4; and

"a procedure for registering the address classified in accordance with the hierarchical category" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4,

"wherein predefined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support

device implemented on a <u>client computer;</u> and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines 49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col. 6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page, by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 10, Li discloses "a recording medium which stores a program for a computer to perform an operation" (see col. 14, lines 11-14) "a search support device"

(i.e., search engine; see col. 7, line4 56-57), "that request a search process for an address indicating a location of desired information on a desired network is based on search information associated with the desired information" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the program comprising:

"a procedure for storing a category menu in which predetermined hierarchical categories are listed up" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4; and

"a procedure for generating search information associated with a hierarchical category selected from the category menu" (i.e., the bookmark system includes a document, in which classifies into (hierarchical) categories; see col. 2, lines 1-6) and "selected from the category menu" (i.e., selecting bookmarks; see col. 2, lines 42-44),

"wherein predetermined search information is registered for each category" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2),

"which predetermined search information is used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating a location of desired information accessible on the network" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43. Li fails to explicitly disclose a search support device implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the

registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines 49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col. 6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page, by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

As per claim 11, Li discloses "the program further includes a procedure for generating the category menu" (i.e., bookmark classified into categories menu; see col. 2, lines 1-4).

As per claim 12, Li discloses "a method for searching for an address of desired information accessible on a network based on search information associated with the desired information" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), the method comprising:

"registering predetermined search information used as a keyword for searching for the address indicating of the desired information on a network" (i.e., locating (searching) document in a bookmark in the computer network; col. 1, lines 58-59), and also see column 13, lines 35-43, "for each of the plurality of hierarchical categories into which information is classified" (i.e., the power bookmarks, documents are classified under hierarchical (categories) classification; see col. 11, lines 46-47); and also, see column 2, lines 3-4; and

"searching for the address of the desired information based on the registered predetermined search information" (i.e., a page has an access pattern satisfying certain predetermined criteria; see col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line 2) "when a hierarchical category is selected" (i.e., user can select multiple URLs; col. 8, lines 33-35). Li fails to explicitly disclose a method implemented on a <u>client computer</u>; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. However, Zhao discloses the system is implemented on a client (see Zhao col. 3, lines 49-59 and col. 6, lines 41-42); and user selects a file, retrieving the file and sending it to the user, the system uses next the newly selected sub category, in which the user elect to navigate upward through a hierarchy of level (upper level) categories; see Zhao col.

6, lines 14-35). Furthermore, in column 2, lines 31-42, Zhao discloses upward and downward from a navigation page from the category produce different navigation page, by changing the contents of the hierarchy relationships between the categories files is easily accomplished by modifying entries (keyword) of the tables according to methods which assure tables are updated when necessary.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Li and Zhao with implemented on a client computer; and wherein, when a new keyword is searched for by using a combination of a plurality of upper level keywords, the registration unit generates a lower level category corresponding to the new keyword. Such a modification would allow the teachings of Li and Zhao to provide an efficient categorized content retrieval mechanism which can be changed dynamically without interrupting the dissemination of the data (see Zhao col. 1, lines 45-48).

Prior Art

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cole et al., U.S. Patent 5,933,827 relates to computer.

CONTACT INFORMATION

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEAN B. FLEURANTIN whose telephone number is 571 - 272-4035. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:05 to 4:35.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 571 - 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2100

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